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James Clough

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HEWLETT PACKARD COMPANY
Intellectual Property Administration
P.O. Box 272400
Fort Collins, CO 80527-2400

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**BEFORE THE BOARD OF PATENT APPEALS
AND INTERFERENCES**

Application Number: 10/004,173
Filing Date: October 09, 2001
Appellant(s): CLOUGH ET AL.

MAILED

JUN 15 2007

Technology Center 2600

Charles W. Griggers
For Appellant

EXAMINER'S ANSWER

This is in response to the appeal brief filed 1/22/07 appealing from the Office action mailed 9/22/06.

(1) Real Party in Interest

A statement identifying by name the real party in interest is contained in the brief.

(2) Related Appeals and Interferences

The examiner is not aware of any related appeals, interferences, or judicial proceedings which will directly affect or be directly affected by or have a bearing on the Board's decision in the pending appeal.

(3) Status of Claims

The statement of the status of claims contained in the brief is correct.

(4) Status of Amendments After Final

The appellant's statement of the status of amendments after final rejection contained in the brief is correct.

(5) Summary of Claimed Subject Matter

The summary of claimed subject matter contained in the brief is correct.

(6) Grounds of Rejection to be Reviewed on Appeal

The appellant's statement of the grounds of rejection to be reviewed on appeal is correct.

(7) Claims Appendix

The copy of the appealed claims contained in the Appendix to the brief is correct.

(8) Evidence Relied Upon

2003/0005097	Barnard et al.	1-2003
6,385,728	DeBry	5-2002

(9) Grounds of Rejection

The following ground(s) of rejection are applicable to the appealed claims:

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

1. Claims 1-18 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2003/0005097 to Barnard et al in view of U.S. Patent No. 6385728 to DeBry.

Regarding claim 1, Barnard discloses a print server, for processing a print job sent by a workstation, the printer comprising: a printer set-up module to provide a print

driver for installation on the workstation (see Figs. 2, 4, and 6 and paragraphs [0063] and [0064] lines 1-13).

Barnard does not disclose expressly an authentication module to supply an authentication code to the workstation, and to review the print job sent by the workstation to determine validity of a copy of the authentication code attached to the print job.

DeBry discloses an authentication module to supply an authentication code to the workstation, and to review the print job sent by the workstation to determine validity of a copy of the authentication code attached to the print job (see Figs. 1, 2 and 4, column 4 line 44-column 5 line 7, column 7 line 7-column 8 line 11, and column 8 line 50-column 9 line 27).

Regarding claim 6, Barnard discloses a method of printing, comprising: attaching a workstation to a LAN (see Fig. 1 and paragraphs [0030]-[0032]), downloading and installing a print driver on the workstation (see Figs. 2, 4, and 6 and paragraphs [0063] and [0064] lines 1-13), and sending the print job from the print server to a printer (see paragraph [0064] lines 1-13).

Barnard does not disclose expressly downloading an authentication code to the workstation from a print server, sending a print job, containing the authentication code, from the workstation to a print server, and verifying validity of the authentication code.

DeBry discloses downloading an authentication code to the workstation from a server (see column 7 lines 15-35 and column 8 lines 50-65), sending a print job, containing the authentication code, from the workstation to a print server (see column 7

lines 36-49 and column 8 line 65-column 9 line 4), and verifying validity of the authentication code (see column 7 lines 50-55, column 8 lines 6-11, and column 9 lines 6-27), and sending the print job from the print server to a printer (see column 8 lines 32-36 and column 10 lines 18-20).

Regarding claims 10 and 13, Barnard discloses downloading and installing a print driver on the workstation (see Figs. 2, 4, and 6 and paragraphs [0063] and [0064] lines 1-13) and sending the print job from the print server to a printer (see paragraph [0064] lines 1-13).

Barnard does not disclose expressly downloading an authentication code to the workstation from a print server, sending a print job, containing the authentication code, from the workstation to a print server, and verifying validity of the authentication code.

DeBry discloses downloading an authentication code to the workstation from a server (see column 7 lines 15-35 and column 8 lines 50-65), sending a print job, containing the authentication code, from the workstation to a print server (see column 7 lines 36-49 and column 8 line 65-column 9 line 4), and verifying validity of the authentication code (see column 7 lines 50-55, column 8 lines 6-11, and column 9 lines 6-27), and sending the print job from the print server to a printer (see column 8 lines 32-36 and column 10 lines 18-20).

Regarding claim 18, Barnard discloses a print server, comprising: a printer set-up module to provide a print driver for installation on the workstation (see Figs. 2, 4, and 6 and paragraphs [0063] and [0064] lines 1-13).

Barnard does not disclose expressly an authentication module to supply an authentication code to the workstation, and to review a print job processed by the print driver and sent from the workstation to determine validity of the authentication code attached to the print job.

DeBry discloses an authentication module to supply an authentication code to the workstation, and to review a print job processed by the print driver and sent from the workstation to determine validity of the authentication code attached to the print job (see Figs. 1, 2 and 4, column 4 line 44-column 5 line 7, column 7 line 7-column 8 line 11, and column 8 line 50-column 9 line 27).

Barnard & DeBry are combinable because they are from the same field of endeavor, printing based on user printer compatibility.

At the time of the invention, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art to combine the authentication procedure, as described by DeBry, which is well known in the art, with the system of Barnard.

The suggestion/motivation for doing so would have been to provide a secure exchange of data between a computing system and a printing device to ensure only authorized users have access to the systems. Barnard recognizes a need for secure transmission of print data (see paragraph [0053]).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to combine DeBry with Barnard to obtain the invention as specified in claims 1, 6, 10, 13, and 18.

Regarding claim 2, Barnard further discloses a software library to contain the print driver and at least one additional print driver (see Fig. 2 "60" and paragraph [0036] lines 37-39).

Regarding claim 3, Barnard further discloses a webpage interface to gather information from the workstation to indicate a preferred print driver to be sent to the workstation (see paragraphs [0013] lines 5-18, [0038] lines 20-25, [0044] lines 1-3 and 20-28, and [0062]).

Regarding claims 4 and 9, Barnard further discloses a webpage to present a questionnaire to a user of the workstation (see paragraphs [0062]-[0064]).

Regarding claims 5, 8, 12, and 16, Barnard further discloses a MAC address, transferred from the workstation to the print server, to aid in the authentication of the workstation (see paragraphs [0045] lines 15-16 and [0046] lines 10-17).

Regarding claims 7 and 15, Barnard further discloses obtaining information about the workstation (see paragraphs [0013] lines 5-18, [0038] lines 20-25, [0044] lines 1-3 and 20-28, and [0062]-[0064]) and using the information to select the print driver from a library (see paragraphs [0062]-[0064]). DeBry also discloses obtaining information about the workstation (see column 8 line 50-column 9 line 27).

Regarding claims 11 and 14, Barnard further discloses gathering information from the workstation to indicate a preferred print driver to be sent to the workstation (see paragraphs [0062]-[0064]).

Regarding claim 17, Barnard further discloses obtaining information about the workstation from fields send by a browser on the workstation (see paragraphs [0013] lines 5-18, [0038] lines 20-25, [0044] lines 1-3 and 20-28, and [0062]-[0064]).

(10) Response to Argument

Applicant's arguments in the Appeal Brief filed 1/22/07 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

Regarding claims 1-5, the applicant asserts that the combination of Barnard and DeBry does not disclose, teach, or suggest at least "an authentication module to supply an authentication code to the workstation, and to review the print job sent by the workstation to determine validity of a copy of the authentication code attached to the print job," as recited in claim 1. The examiner respectfully disagrees as the combination of Barnard and DeBry does disclose such features. Particularly, DeBry discloses an authentication process (Fig. 1) that utilizes a "will-call" certificate. The user **20**, from a workstation, sends a request to a document source **10** to print a document. The document source **10** creates a will-call certificate that contains, among other things, a digital signature and sends the will-call certificate back to the user **20**. The user then sends a print request along with the will-call certificate to the print server **30**. The print server **30** then goes to the document source **10** to retrieve the requested document, at which point the document source **10** verifies that the will-call certificate is indeed the one that was originally issued by the document source **10**. After such verification the

document is printed (see column 7 line 7-column 8 line 11). Although figure 1 makes it appear that document source **10** and print server **30** are two different devices, this does not have to be the case. DeBry states that a print server may include, but is not limited to, a stand-alone printer connected to a network, or directly connected to a server where the server is a computer that manages the function of a printer and device queuing either as a computer that is solely dedicated to such management, or as a computer that performs other tasks besides such management. Likewise, the file source may be a computer system that may or may not be solely dedicated to managing the files on the system's storage devices. Such file servers may include, but are not limited to, database management systems or digital libraries, etc. (see column 6 line 62-column 7 line 6). DeBry further states that the terms printer, print server, and printing system are used interchangeably as well as the terms file server, file source, etc. Thus, the document source **10** and the print server **30** can be seen to be one device with a document source database and print server/printing functions. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to combine the authentication process of DeBry with the system of Barnard because Barnard discloses a network management device **20** (server) that configures workstations by sending and installing appropriate print drivers and as depicted in paragraph 53, Barnard is concerned with secure printing of print jobs managed by the network management device **20**. It would have been obvious to have the network management device **20** of Barnard send a will-call certificate to a user (workstation), sending a request to print the document along with the will-call certificate to the network management device **20** for verification before the

Art Unit: 2625

document is actually printed out. Therefore, the combination of Barnard and DeBry does disclose, "an authentication module to supply an authentication code to the workstation, and to review the print job sent by the workstation to determine validity of a copy of the authentication code attached to the print job," as recited in claim 1.

Regarding claims 6-9, the applicant asserts that the combination of Barnard and DeBry does not disclose, teach, or suggest at least "downloading an authentication code to the workstation from a print server, sending a print job, containing the authentication code, from the workstation to the print server, and verifying validity of the authentication code," as recited in claim 6. The examiner respectfully disagrees for the same reasons as set forth above.

Regarding claims 10-12, the applicant asserts that the combination of Barnard and DeBry does not disclose, teach, or suggest at least "downloading an authentication code to the workstation from a print server, sending a print job, containing the authentication code, from the workstation to the print server, and verifying validity of the authentication code," as recited in claim 10. The examiner respectfully disagrees for the same reasons as set forth above.

Regarding claims 13-17, the applicant asserts that the combination of Barnard and DeBry does not disclose, teach, or suggest at least to "download and install an authentication code on the workstation from a print server, sending a print job, containing the authentication code, from the workstation to the print server, and verifying validity of the authentication code using an authentication module on the print

Art Unit: 2625

server," as recited in claim 13. The examiner respectfully disagrees for the same reasons as set forth above.

Regarding claim 18, the applicant asserts that the combination of Barnard and DeBry does not disclose, teach, or suggest at least "an authentication module to supply an authentication code to the workstation, and to review the print job processed by the print driver and sent from the workstation to determine validity of the authentication code attached to the print job," as recited in claim 18. The examiner respectfully disagrees for the same reasons as set forth above.

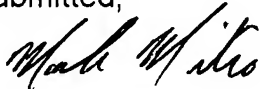
(11) Related Proceeding(s) Appendix

No decision rendered by a court or the Board is identified by the examiner in the Related Appeals and Interferences section of this examiner's answer.

For the above reasons, it is believed that the rejections should be sustained.

Respectfully submitted,


Mark R. Milia



6/1/07


Conferees:

Twylar Lamb



TWYLAR LAMB
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER

Edward Coles



EDWARD COLES
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2600